

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in the present application.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-9.

Applicants respectfully submit that both Groups I and II share a common technical feature and that there would be no undue search burden on the Examiner's part.

Applicants also respectfully submit that the outstanding requirement should be governed by the procedure outlined in MPEP § 821.04(b). That is, since elected claims 1-9 are directed to a product (e.g., aptamer-probe complex), once the product claims are found allowable, the withdrawn process claims 10-19 (e.g., a method of detecting a target) which require all the limitations of the allowable product claims should be considered for rejoinder.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Monique T. Cole, Registration No 60,154 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

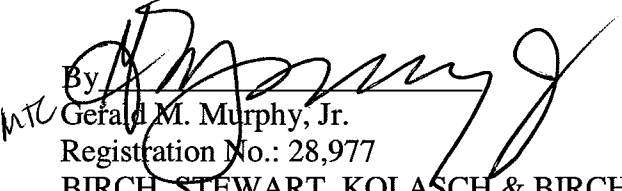

Application No.: 10/580,044

Docket No.: 3691-0132PUS1

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: **May 6, 2009**

Respectfully submitted,


By:  Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.
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